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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/616,991	07/11/2003	Ichio Yudasaka	103131.02	2774

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EXAMINER

ROY, SIKHA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/616,991

Applicant(s)

YUDASAKA, ICHIO

Examiner

Sikha Roy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1003,0204.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

The Amendment, filed on May 18, 2004 has been entered and is acknowledged by the Examiner.

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). Receipt is acknowledged of priority papers with WO 99/10862 (PCT JP 98/03699) which have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

Figures 22 – 25C should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

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The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). In claims 4 and 5 the limitation reciting 'the opposite electrode covering the terminals' fails to provide proper antecedent basis in the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3,6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

Regarding claims 1 and 2 Applicant discloses (in Description of Related Art sections [0003] – [0010], Figs. 22, 23, 24A) an active matrix display 1A comprising plurality of scanning lines *gate*, plurality of data lines *sig*, plurality of common feed lines (*com*) formed above the substrate 10, plurality of pixel electrodes 41 disposed correspondingly to the intersections between the plurality of data and scanning lines, each pixel electrode connected to common feed line through a transistor, opposite electrode *op* formed for the pixel electrodes in common and terminals 12 formed above the substrate 10 not covered by the opposite electrode.

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Regarding claim 3 APPA discloses in Fig. 24B organic semiconductive film 43 disposed between each pixel electrode 41 and opposite electrode op.

Regarding claim 6 AAPA discloses in Fig.22 the terminals 12 connected to plurality common feed lines.

Regarding claims 7 and 8 AAPA discloses in Fig. 22, a scanning line driving circuit 4 for driving the plurality of scanning lines, a data line driving circuit 3 for driving plurality of data lines and the terminals 12 formed on the peripheral region of the scanning line and data line driving circuits of the substrate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,684,365 to Tang et al.

Regarding claims 1 and 2 Tang discloses (Figs. 1-3, column 6 lines 9-44, column 10 lines 5-10) an active matrix display device comprising plurality of scanning lines Yj, plurality of data lines Xi and plurality of common feed lines formed above the substrate 41, plurality of pixel electrodes 72 (ITO) disposed correspondingly to the intersection of plurality of data and scanning lines connected to one of common feed lines through a

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transistor and opposite electrode (EL cathode) 84 formed for the pixel electrodes in common. Tang discloses (column 11) the drive requirements (Gate voltage, Source voltage) for the TFT-EL display panel and hence implicitly discloses terminals providing the power for driving the display device.

Referring to claims 1 and 2 Tang is silent about terminals not covered by the opposite electrode.

Tang acknowledges in Figs. 2 and 3 deposition of the opposite electrode 84 deposited over the surface of the device but does not disclose the particular location of the terminals supplying power for the device. It is further noted that applicant's specific arrangement between the opposite electrode and the terminals does not solve any of the stated problems or yield any unexpected results, thus one of ordinary skill in the art would consider the arrangements as an obvious matter of design engineering. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have the terminals of Tang et al. not covered by the opposite electrodes since such arrangement would have been a mere matter of design engineering.

Regarding claim 3 Tang discloses (column 7 lines 42,43) an organic electroluminescent film 82 disposed between each of the pixel electrode and the opposite electrode.

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

Regarding claim 4 AAPA discloses the claimed invention except for 'opposite electrode covering the terminals'. It would have been obvious matter of design choice

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to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the terminals covered by the opposite electrode since the applicant has not disclosed the covering the terminals by the opposite electrode solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with terminals not covered by the opposite electrode as disclosed by AAPA.

Regarding claim 5 AAPA discloses (page 2 [0005]) that opposite electrode op is connected to the terminal through the second TFT 30 and common feed line com.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1, 2 and 5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In response to Applicant's argument that support for 'opposite electrode covering terminals' is disclosed in section [0043], the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Section [0043] explicitly recites 'the opposite electrode op is formed over the entire display section other than the periphery of the region where terminals 12 are formed'.

Furthermore the Examiner notes that there being no difference in the Fig. 1 (disclosing the invention) and Fig. 22 (prior art), Applicant's Admitted Prior Art discloses the opposite electrodes are formed in a region other than the region where terminals are formed as claimed in claim 1. There is no disclosure of the opposite electrode op covering the terminals.

Conclusion

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The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent 5,670,792 to Utsugi et al. and U.S. Patent 4,006,383 to Luo et al. disclose active matrix display.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sikha Roy whose telephone number is (571) 272-2463. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization is (703) 308-7382.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

S.R.

Sikha Roy
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879

WHz 8/6/04
Mariceli Santiago
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